Soccer News

The Official Organ of

THE VICTORIAN SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Edited by V. J. M. DIXON PRICE 6d.

SPECIAL SOUVENIR NUMBER FOR

THE DOCKERTY CUP FINAL

SOUTH YARRA

versus

PARK RANGERS

OLYMPIC PARK, BATMAN AVENUE

Kick-off at 2.45 p.m.

CURTAIN RAISER

at 1.15 p.m.

RESERVE CUP FINAL

PRAHRAN (Reserves)

versus

BRADFORD (Reserves)

EDITORIAL.

Once more we come to the Dockerty Cup Final, the climax to what I think we all feel is the finest year of Soccer we have had in Victoria for many, many years.

To-day we all have the privilege of being present at a Final which is surely unique in Soccer history, for this is the third year in succession that these two teams—the old-timers South Yarra and comparative newcomers Park Rangers—have figured in the Final. Nothing in the League records of these clubs would lead the average enthusiast to tip either one as the Cup winner early in the piece and it is once again clear proof of the old adage that "Cup Football is not League Football," and that South Yarra and Park Rangers both are natural Cup fighters.

The Cup competition this year as in previous years has met with an adverse "Press." For some reason known best to himself, one correspondent of the Daily and Weekly Papers sees fit every year to decry the efforts of those deserving Lower Division teams who succeed in catching their mightier brethren on the "hop" and manage to put them out of the Cup. The suggestion of this gentleman that the Cup Competition then loses interest is not born out by the facts. The heavy attendance at Olympic Park last week, if not a record, was at least very near to one and it is confidently expected that to-day all records for Soccer attendances at this ground will be shattered.

The Victorian Soccer Football Association this year has tried consistently to improve the set-up of the game in Victoria, both by publicity and also by the putting on of attractive games to draw not only the enthusiast but also his more luke-warm offsider.

These efforts reached their culmination in the visit of the Jugo-Slav side to Melbourne when all gate records were broken on the Saturday for the Test Match.

Many followers of Soccer stayed away on the Wednesday for various reasons, including the fact that it rained (shame on you). These gentry have been kicking themselves to death ever since, for surely no harder fight was ever put up in Melbourne than that of Tommy Jack's Victorians.

That this drawn game impressed Interstate representatives we know (although it did not prejudice them in our favour), and to drive home the fact to these people that Victoria is now "TOPS" in the Soccer World no effort or expense was spared by the V.S.F.A. in entertaining these visiting dignitaries at that time.

Throughout the Season "Soccer News" has endeavoured to play its part in popularising Soccer. It's circulation is limited, though next year's plans are in hand to increase that circulation considerably, but readers should bear in mind the fact that this is YOUR paper and it is run by YOUR Association. It is up to you to buy it and when finished with, pass it on to someone who does not follow Soccer and so endeavouring to kindle an interest in this game which we think is the "only" game of football.

We cannot let the Season run out without mention of those poor unfortunates who take all the kicks (with a smile, we hope)—the Club Secretaries, and all those members of the Clubs and of the Council who sit on the various sub-committees. To these gentlemen who give their time for nothing, handing out sentences to players caught in the act, handling publicity, appointing referees, selecting State teams, revising rules, etc., and all the thousand and one jobs that make the game go—"WE DIPS OUR LID."

THE DOCKERTY CUP

(By V. J. M. Dixon)

During the few years I have been connected with Soccer in Victoria, I have often heard the question asked, "Why is the Cup called the 'Dockerty Cup'?" and" Who is this Dockerty bloke, anyhow?"

"Soccer News" has looked into the matter and now tries to answer these questions. It seems that some 41 years ago, way back in 1908, there arrived in Melbourne from Glasgow, by way of New Zealand, a certain young tailor by the name of H. J. Dockerty.

Disgusted by the lack of football of the "round ball" variety, this young man, accompanied by a friend, began to fill in his spare time kicking a Soccer ball around on a piece of ground opposite St. Kilda Station. In no time they were joined by others and from this sprang the then St. Kilda Soccer Club.

The following year (in a manner not considered to be in accordance with Scottish traits) this young man presented a magnificent trophy (which you have the opportunity of seeing here to-day at Olympic Park) for competition on the lines of the F. A. Cup Competitions in England.

Not a bad effort for a youngster of 25 summers. How that man must have loved his Soccer.

We see from the Cup that it was presented to the V.A.B.F.A. which stood in those days for "Victorian Amateur British Football Association," now the V.A.S.F.A.

In 1909, the first Cup Competition took place and the final was played on the East Melbourne Cricket Ground (now the Railway yards which can be seen from Olympic Park). The finalists were St. Kilda, with H. J. Dockerty at right-half, and Carlton United who ran out winners.

In the Carlton side was another well-known Soccer identity—Bill Cummings (until recently, chairman of the V.S.F.A.). The Carlton team all came from Ayrshire and was at that time the finest team in Melbourne (we quote Mr. Dockerty). In 1910 Carlton were again successful, but the following year St. Kilda came into their own and carried off the coveted Cup. 1912 saw Yarraville come into the picture and retain the honour in 1913, but in 1914 we first see mention of Melbourne Thistle, who held the Cup in 1915, also that year the First World War brought the competitions to a close.

In 1919, with the war over, Footscray Thistle appear on the trophy for the first time and also two further victories in the 20's when they alternated with the Navy, who carried the Cup off in 1924-26-28.

In the year 1931 a new name appears on the Cup in "Wonthaggi"—where are all these teams of yesterday? Around this time a few years are missing on the Cup, and then in 1933, we see a name familiar to all of us in Brighton, who won the Cup then for the first time. But not for the last time for in 1937 they had it again.

For 1934 and 36 the records show the name of Royal Calies for the only occasions, but in 1938-39 and 40 Nobels had their run of victories, which as far as we can see is the only time one Club has held the Cup three years in succession.

From 1940 until 1943 there is a lapse owing to the Second World War, but in 1943 the re-formed Brighton Club carried off the honours once more. Brighton held it again in 1944 after that epic struggle at Toorak Park with R.A.A.F. (Laverton) which will long be remembered by all who saw it.

1945 sees Box Hill victorious but with no shield for 1946 our memory fails us until 1947 when the Park Rangers-South Yarra duels took place resulting in South Yarra's victory. This result was reversed last year when Park Rangers turned the tables and carried off the Cup to Middle Park from where—all spit and polish—it has just arrived. In recent years the figure on top of the Cup was stolen and this has now been replaced by a new one.

As for that sprightly young man, H. J. Dockerty, he has continued his connection with Soccer in one way and another for 41 years. He is to-day Senior Vice-President of the V.A.S.F.A. and regularly attends Council Meetings—though lately he has not enjoyed the best of health.

(Continued on bottom of Page 4.)

HISTORY OF SOUTH YARRA SOCCER CLUB

South Yarra Soccer Club was formed in 1928 from a side composed of Prahran Juniors when the Junior age was 21. The Juniors over 21 had to step up and with Prahran Seniors having two good teams at the time, rather than disband, the players stuck together and formed a new Club which they called South Yarra, in 1928, and were put in the then Suburban League.

During their first Season they finished runners-up in the Suburban League. In 1930 they won the 3rd Division, and in 1931 finished runners-up to Box Hill in the 2nd Division. During their term in the Second Division, Yarra became well known, when their five forwards were picked to play in the International Scotland v. England at the Exhibition Oval, the forward line being Hawkes, Spetch (who played for England), and Burnell, Duff and Currie (who played in the Scottish side).

One great victory Yarra had was in the Dockerty Cup, when they were in the 2nd Division. That game was against Collingwood, who were leaders of the First Division. Yarra won 5-3, but failed against Wonthaggi Magpies, which year the Magpies won the Cup. On being promoted to the First Division, South Yarra did well by being runners-up to that great Club now defunct, Royal Caledonians, and reaching the semi-final of the Cup. One of the Club's greatest wins was when they beat Hakoah, who had not lost a game for three seasons, and that was in 1933.

To recall some of the great names in Soccer who have helped Yarra we find Peter McCluskey, who represented Victoria, also T. McCluskey, who played in representative games; J. Turton, Scottish captain; T. Sharp, Scottish goalkeeper three times (still with the Club as centre-half); G. Semple, English captain; A. Bradd, who represented Victoria as outside-left, and is still active with the Reserves; E. Herbert, who was considered the best centre-half ever in Victoria; H. Friend, brilliant right-half and still a member of the Club; E. Haydon, good back and still around; T. Lacey, Yarra's first goalkeeper and still with Yarra; A. Rolands, centre-half and still willing to play; Roger Addie, right-half, later to become Club Secretary; G. Hawkes, outside-right, during the war was a tower of strength in the R.A.A.F. (Laverton) side, still a Yarra-man; J. Baxter, Scotland centre in his first year with Yarra; W. Duff, inside-left for Scotland and made up that good left wing with his old mate M. Currie, who was one of the best outside-lefts in the game.

Yarra's first chairman, Mr. A. Lacey, is still alive and well, but it was under the eye of Old Man "Duff" and Mr. F. Kane that South Yarra really came into the game; their tuition and guidance being a great help to the young players in Fawkner Park. Mr. J. Crew was one of our chairmen and is still a patron of the Club. Also the late J. J. Liston was one of our patrons. Mr. W. MacCombie, one-time Pres., and still good with Yarra.

In conclusion I would like to mention about the South Yarra Res. who have one stalwart in A. Morris, and their wonderful career. They have won the Reserve Cups seven times, and had the honour of winning it 3 times in succession. Their backing up in the Club has always been the foundation of the South Yarra Soccer Club.—W. DUFF.

The references in this article to members playing for England and Scotland refer to English and Scottish teams chosen from Victoria—not to overseas touring teams.—Editor.

(Continued from Page 3)

Mr. H. J. Dockerty treasures many happy memories of Soccer during which he says he has met many grand fellows and a few famous ones, including Lord Huntingfield at one Final, and Lord Stradbroke who was here with an English Professional side and kicked off at the M.C.G.

With regard to Soccer to-day, H. J. Dockerty says that though many of his friends consider that we have not the players that they had years ago, this is not his opinion and he feels that the game to-day is stronger than it has ever been. He says it is getting stronger all the time and as for the players they are as good as ever.

"Soccer News" feels that all "Soccerites" will join it in wishing many more years of Soccer to that popular Soccer personality and grand sportsman —"DOCK."

HISTORY OF PARK RANGERS SOCCER CLUB

Park Rangers first saw the light of day as a Senior Club in the 1946 season. In this year the South Melbourne Juniors, who had functioned during the war years with considerable success, having become too old for the Junior ranks, decided to enter Senior football as a body. This they did and so Park Rangers was formed.

First Secretary of the Club was our old friend Alec Mackie who, although he is no longer Secretary, is still a key man. His son, John Mackie plays at right-back in the first team.

The Club has the honour to be the present Cup holders and in the short span of the 4 years of its existence has been in three Cup finals and in the other year reached the semi-final. This must surely be a record in any Soccer country.

IN Junior ranks they hold the record of winning the Under 19 —unior League four years in succession—1944-45 as South Melbourne Juniors and 1946-47 as Park Rangers. Even more remarkable is their performance in the Junior Cup. This trophy they have won six years in a row. Four years as S.M. Juniors and two years as Park Rangers. Many of the lads who played in those Junior games are playing here to-day.

The following details are of special interest regarding seasons 1946 and 1947:—

In 1946, Rangers were runners'up in the Second Division Cup, being beaten by Sunshine after extra time in the final, 2-1. They were League Premiers of the South Section of Division 2 in 1946.

In 1947, they were runners'-up to Moreland in the 1st Division and reached the Dockerty Cup final to go down to South Yarra, 2-1.

Rangers again met South Yarra in the Cup finals of 1948, and this time reversed the decision, beating South Yarra 4-3 after being 2 down at half-time. To-day's game will make it the best of three.

Players who have been with the Club since its early days as South Melbourne Juniors include: Dave Dickinson, Jock Mackie, Stan Holder, Jackie Wilson, Howieson, Petterson, the Nelson brothers, R. Fox, Curley Hughes and D. Lomax.

Jock Mackie has played in a Cup Final (Junior and Senior) every year since 1942. This must be a record.

Players who have represented Victoria include Wilson and Weight against Jugo-Slavs; Mackie and Clark against H.M.S. Theseus; Mackie also against South Africa; Bailey, Howieson, Hughes, McHutiffe, E. Nelson and A. Nelson, and Petterson against South Australian Juniors.

Newcomers to the Club are Bill Highett and Stan Gillis from Coburg, and Andy Mulceahy from Eire, who is the find of the season. Bob West has now been two seasons with the Club.

On the administrative side of the Club we find the President, Mr. Gini, who took over the reins on the retirement of the Club's first President, Mr. E. Bailey. Les Hurst, the chairman, has been with the Club for 2 seasons and is one of the hardest workers. J. Stephens became Hon. Secretary on the retirement of Alec Mackie, and "Jock", as he is known to the boys, is doing a real solid job.

The Ladies' Social Committee, under the Secretaryship of Miss Butler, has done a power of work on the social side and has assisted greatly in augmenting the Club's funds.

Last, but not least, mention must be made of R. F. (Tich) Thorpe, who has been with Park Rangers for three seasons as coach. Much of the Club's success is due to this gentleman whose unfailing efforts to improve the standard of play, have been appreciated by all members of the Park Rangers' team.

SOUTH YARRA

Back Row: G. Sharp, J. Dall, G. Brundell, F. Nesbit, W. Whittaker.
Front Row: K. Fox, A. Duff, W. Murdoch, D. Stoddart, T. Sharp (Capt.), D. Millar,

PARK RANGERS

Included in the above group are Mr. Gini (President), Mr. Thorpe (Trainer), and the following players: Guy, Cotterill, Forrest, Holder, Weight, Gillis, Petterson, Mackie, West, and Mulceahy.

TO-DAY'S TEAMS

Dockerty Cup Final

SOUTH YARRA

(1) LOTT

(2) WHITTAKER (3) G. SHARP

(4) DURNIAN (5) T. SHARP (6) DALL

(8) MURDOCH (10) NISBET

(7) MITCHELLSON (9) STODDART (11) SHARMAN

●

(11) GILLIES (9) MULCEAHY (7) HIGHETT

(10) WILSON (8) DICKINSON

(6) HOLDER (capt.) (5) GUY (4) PETTERSON

(3) WEST (2) MACKIE

(1) WEIGHT

PARK RANGERS

Reserve Cup Final

PRAHRAN (Reserves)

(1) McCOLL

(2) HAWKES (3) CASSON

(4) DAVIS (5) McDONALD (6) PAUL

(8) EWING (10) ROBINSON

(7) HALFHYDE (9) HALL (11) AUST

●

(11) GRAY (9) SMILEY (7) HAW

(10) HARRISON (8) PHELAN

(6) DALY (5) McDONALD (4) ADAMS

(3) SMITH (2) DAY

(1) WLTISTERLEE

BRADFORD (Reserves)

NOTES ON TO-DAY'S PLAYERS.

SOUTH YARRA SOCCER CLUB.

KEVIN LOTT, age 23, goal. Transport driver for Seniors. Has played with South Yarra for 11 years as a Junior and Senior.

GEORGE SHARP, age 38, right-back. Fibrous plasterer. Born in Scotland. Has had 2 years with South Yarra. Previously played with Melbourne Thistle, Caledonians, Nobels and Sunshine United.

WALLY WHITTAKER, age 36, left-back. Truck driver for Day and Taylor. Hails from Leeds where he played with Yorkshire Amateurs. This is first year with South Yarra. Played previously with Nobels, Brighton and Sunshine.

JOHN DURNIAN, age 22, right-half. Storeman with Stewarts and Lloyds. Born in Hamilton, Scotland. Has been only 3 months in Australia Played with Hamilton Cross (Juniors) in Scotland.

TOM SHARP (Captain), age 30, centre-half. Fibrous plasterer. Brother of George Sharp. Has played 19 years of Soccer in Australia with Melbourne Thistle, Caledonians, Brighton, Nobels and now 2 years with South Yarra.

JIMMY DALL, age 35, left-half. Crane driver at Newport shops.. Learnt Soccer at Wonthaggi as a Junior. Played 1 year with Yallourn. Has been 2 years with South Yarra.

ALEC. MITCHELLSON, age 37, outside-right. Compositor with McLaren and Birds. Born in Fifeshire, Scotland, where he learnt his Soccer. Has played 5 years with South Yarra.

FRANK NESBIT, age 38, inside right. Commercial tarveller with R. F. Murray. Hails from Newcastle on Tyne. Played with R.A.F. in France and India. Two years with Nth. Rhodesia which he represented against Belgian Congo, South Africa and South Rhodesia.

DAVE STODDART, age 25, centre-forward. Truck driver with Rudders. Born in Blaenao-Festinio (North Wales). Played centre-forward for Victoria against Jugo-Slavia this season. Consistent goal scorer.

BILLY MURDOCH, age 26, inside-left. Painter and decorator. Comes from Prestwick, Ayrshire, Scotland. Arrived in Australia only this year. Played for Kelmarnock Juniors, Ayr British Legion and R.A.F. teams.

BOB SHARMAN, age 26, outside-left. Maintenance engineer with T.A.A. Comes from Newcastle, N.S.W. Learnt Soccer with Swansea (N.S.W. Southern League Club). Represented Newcastle Association three times against Sydney Association.

PARK RANGERS SOCCER CLUB.

CHARLIE WEIGHT, age 22, goal. Architect in City. His first season with Park Rangers. Played as an amateur three years with Southhampton (England), also with British Army against French Army. Chosen to play this year for Victoria v. Jugo-Slavs at M.C.G.

JOHN MACKIE, age 22, right-back. Brassmoulder by trade. Son of well-known Soccer identity Alec Mackie. Has been with Rangers since its inception and has played over 120 games with the Club. Played for Victoria versus South Africa and H.M.S. Theseus.

BOB WEST, age 23, left-back. Refrigeration engineer with Electrolux. From Edgware, London. Played with English Junior teams on famous Arsenal ground on three occasions. Had three years in Navy. Has now been 2 years with Park Rangers.

JOHNNY PETTERSON, age 20, right-half. Is a radio technician with Dept. of Civil Aviation. Has played 8 years with Rangers. Chosen to

play for Victorian Under 19 Juniors versus South Australia, both in Adelaide and Melbourne.

BILL GUY, age 24, centre-half. Plumber by trade. Learnt Soccer with Park Rangers Juniors. During war played with the Navy. Played in Cup Final two years ago against South Yarra.

STAN HOLDER (Captain), age 23, left-half. A clerk with Carreras. Has been five years with Park Rangers, both Juniors and Seniors. Fast man on the ball. Plays District Cricket with South Melbourne during summer.

BILL HIGHETT, age 25, outside-right. Played in Victorian trials before Jugo-Slavs arrived. Has been two years in Australia. First season with Rangers. Played previously with Coburg. Hails from Kilmarnock, Scotland, where he played with Glenfield Amateurs.

DAVE DICKINSON, age 22, inside-right. Fitter and turner with Telford Smith. Has been with Rangers since they started and will be playing in his 3rd Cup Final—all against Souh Yarra.

ANDY MULCEAHY, age 23, centre-forward. A labourer with Barkly Mineral Products. Has been only 8 months in Australia. Played in Ireland for Limerick City and Caledonians, and during the war with R.A.F. teams in Bristol.

JACKIE WILSON, age 20, inside-left. Color typist with Associated Press. Has been five years with Park Rangers. Selected as reserve for 2nd Test against Jugo-Slavs. Played inside-left for Victoria versus Jugo-Slavs and scored equalising goal. Later chosen to play in an Australian xi. against Jugo-Slavia in Adelaide.

STAN GILLIS, age 28, outside-left. A motor engineer with "Repco." Playing his first season with Park Rangers. Played three years with Navy teams and Coburg schoolboys, and later Coburg senior team.

NOTICE.

This Souvenir is the final number of "Soccer News" for the 1949 season. We hope that you like it. If you do, tell your Club delegate so that he can talk on it when "Soccer News" comes up for discussion later.—Editor.

SOCCER BOOKLET

I have to hand a little booklet entitled "25 Years of Soccer", which has been sent to me by the Brighton Club. This booklet, describing the history of the Brighton Club from its inception, is really excellent and I can recommend it to all Soccer followers for it is in keeping with the usual run of Brighton efforts. Copies can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. W. R. Jones, 16 Well Street, Brighton, S.5.—Editor.

A NIGHT NOT TO BE MISSED.

The final night of the Sandringham City Club will be a Monster Celebration and Presentation Night at the Sandringham Memorial Hall, on Wednesday, 5th October. Tickets are [redacted] on sale and are obtainable from D. H. Bingham, 80 Sandringham Rd., Sandringham (C. 4656) at 7/- Double. Roll up members, supporters, and all Soccerites and make it a great night.

SANDRINGHAM CITY CLUB'S SECRETARY SENDS THANKS.

"As Club Secretary, I would like to publicly thank our Club President, Mr. McLennan, for a job well done, and also all the Committee, who, believe me, have done a wonderful job in the Sandringham District, and last but not least, our popular Junior Coach (Norm Shingles), who with wonderful patience and understanding has formed 2 Junior teams and has them playing well."—D. H. Bingham.

CLUB JOTTINGS

FILM NIGHT

A film night was conducted at the Box Hill Town Hall on Wednesday, September 7th, by the Box Hill Social Club when several films on "Methods of Coaching in Soccer" were shown in conjunction with the State Film Centre. The Club extended an invitation to members of the Ringwood Soccer Club to be present and a satisfactory attendance resulted.

At the conclusion a vote of thanks was made to Mr. Pye, the representative of the State Film Centre for making the films and projector available. The audience showed its approval and enjoyment of the function by acclamation in a hearty manner.

The Box Hill Club recommends these films to other Clubs and suggests that many more Soccer enthusiasts will see them if shown in the suburbs than at the theatrette in the city.

H. Dockerty attended and was very interested in the application of the films for coaching and the methods adopted.

Will players and members please note that a "smoke night" will be held at "Shadmaid" 5 Nelson Rd., on Friday, September 30th, and a dance and presentation night at Box Hill Town Hall on Friday, October 14.

All those intending to be present kindly contact Mr. K. Martin (Social Secretary) as soon as possible.

BRIGHTON UNDER 19's

The moving up of all except two of last year's Under 19 team to Senior teams meant that there was quite a big job to be done in building a new side. Due to this, the side that took the field for the first few games was not the best, and was not very successful. Owing to the coaching of Jack Rickeby and the fine captaincy of Ken Farrow, we gradually improved until finally, last Saturday, we reached the final of the Junior Cup, only to be defeated by Yallourn 2-0.

During the season we have been raising funds for a trip to Adelaide on September 23rd. There we shall be entertained by Cumberland Soccer Club, and shall play their Under 19 team. This should be enjoyed by all and will make a fine ending to a grand season.

JUNIOR SOCCER

The time must come when Soccer will be strong enough to foster Juniors on a scale equal to that in England, but now we have to do our best with the material and facilities at our disposal.

To start with, each boy must have the same colour jersey, socks and shorts as his team mates, to make the lad feel like a footballer. This is essential for it has a psychological effect on the player.

By reducing each little obstacle we can gradually better the boys play With Australian boys who have not had the opportunity to see regular first-class football we must start from the beginning. Essential in tuition is ball control, i.e., being able to trap a ball surely and quickly, dispose of it, dribble on the run, turn quickly and make an accurate pass.

Position plays a big part in football which the boys must be taught with clear and constant instruction. Meetings should be once a week, with talks about Saturday's game. Let each lad constructively criticise the other fellow and in this way he will gain confidence in expressing his opinion.

Show them the moves on an illustrated chart or blackboard and then let them try them out in practice next day. Never let a bunch of boys have only one ball for it is important that the fellows who want to do some serious practice, such as four or five boys running in formation up and down the field practicing passing on the run, should have one ball to themselves. Others who wish to practice heading, trapping and throw-ins should have a ball for each job. This is very important in making eleven boys play like a team.

Space is insufficient to go into this too deeply, but one thing is certain—for our Juniors to achieve the standard of play of the best Interstate and Overseas players, they must have the best of coaching.—Arthur Scott.

CANDID CORNER.

Dear Sir,—I should like to congratulate you on the new version of "Soccer News' which, although small, is a big improvement on previous issues.

Let us hope the Clubs will support it in future and thereby give you encouragement to make it even better.

Meanwhile the best of luck in your efforts to promote Soccer.—Yours sincerely,

SIDNEY F. THOMPSON,
Chairman Vic. Referees' Assoc.

Dear Sir,—Hearty congrats on your correspondent's most entertaining skit on the Jugo-Slavs' visit. I have taken the liberty of "running" it in the final test programme under the name of "The Great Melbourne Philosopher Dicko."

I trust you will permit that liberty.

The fourth test victory for Australia, at Newcastle, was a well-merited success. The boys played grandly and I had the very good fortune to be manager of the successful side. A simple plan of old British Soccer which subdued the Slavs inside-forwards did the trick.

In the meantime please accept my best wishes for your continued success in Soccer efforts in your State.—Yours sincerely,

W. ORR.

Mr. Orr is the Soccer Correspondent of the "Sydney Morning Herald", Editor of the N.S.W. Soccer Weekly News and a Director of the N.S.W. Soccer Association. The "Prophet' feels flattered.

Dear Sir,—As the 1949 football season draws to a close, I should like to express my appreciation to both players and officials, for many pleasant afternoons watching the "Best game on earth."

In particular I have been interested in the progress of the local lads; such players as the Tait brothers of Prahran, Stoddart of South Yarra and Wilson of Park Rangers being equal to the best.

I should also like to compliment the Brighton Club on the business-like way they stage their home fixtures. I am sure that the hard work which the members of the Victorian Council has done is amply compensated for by the progress made during the season.

My only moan is the poor response by spectators to the collection box which goes round at all home matches. If Soccer fans would realise that without money the game cannot progress they would then make their donation each Saturday "at least a bob."

Here's hoping for a bigger and better season in 1950.—Yours faithfully,

H. V. ROSE.

Dear Sir,—I was very taken with "Nimrod's" report in the Press on Saturday's semi-final between Park Rangers and Brighton, and particularly with his reference to the "Final Bell." As a follower of Soccer for 43 years I find the innovation of ringing a bell at a Soccer match rather unusual to say the least. I did not hear it myself, but if "Nimrod" did so, it is only fair that he should give us further details and not keep us in the dark as to whether it was one of the "Bells of St. Mary" or one of the "Ding! dong!" variety, which rumour has it reported the loss of "Poor Pussey in the Well."

"LONDONER," Northcote.

LEAGUE TABLES.

First Division—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Brighton	16	14	0	2	52	16	30
Park Rangers	18	9	4	5	50	27	23
Box Hill	18	9	4	5	46	40	23
Moreland	18	9	7	2	50	39	20
Prahran	18	9	7	2	52	49	20
Sth. Yarra	17	5	8	4	35	37	14
Bradford	16	5	7	4	31	34	14
Sunshine	18	6	11	1	38	50	13
Yallourn	18	5	11	2	39	69	12
W. Suburbs	17	2	14	1	23	59	5

1st Division League completed. Premiers: Brighton. Runners-up: Park Rangers. Relegated: Yallourn and Western Suburbs.

Second Division—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Sand'ham	18	17	0	1	62	15	35
Hakoah	18	14	4	0	84	31	28
S. Melb.	18	12	4	2	63	28	26
Ringwood	18	12	6	0	34	28	24
University	18	8	9	1	45	34	17
Preston	18	5	8	5	34	45	15
Heidelberg	18	6	11	1	31	46	13
Yarraville	18	4	11	3	26	45	11
Olympic	18	2	13	3	15	70	7
Will'town	18	1	15	2	18	70	4

2nd Division completed. Premiers: Sandringham. Runners-up: Hakoah. Both teams promoted. Relegated: Olympic and Williamstown.

Third Division—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
George Cross	18	17	1	0	65	17	34
Juventus	18	16	2	0	84	17	32
Fifers	17	12	4	1	54	31	25
Woodlands	17	8	8	1	34	28	17
Northcote	17	8	8	1	40	41	17
Y.C.W.M.	15	8	6	1	67	27	15
Macedonians	16	6	10	0	27	51	12
Brighton	16	4	11	1	50	70	9
Metters	16	4	12	0	32	72	8
Box Hill	12	4	8	0	7	37	8
Woodlands	17	1	16	0	9	84	2

3rd Division League completed. Premiers: George Cross. Runners-up: Juventus. Both Clubs promoted.

Note.—Winner of Premiership may be subject to alteration, Juventus having claimed to Appeals Board for reversal of League Ruling.

First Division Reserves—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Brighton	17	16	1	0	89	14	[illegible]
Park Rangers	17	15	2	0	75	15	30
Prahran	17	12	4	1	61	31	25
Sth. Yarra	17	9	6	2	58	48	20
Box Hill	17	9	8	0	52	44	18
Yallourn	17	8	8	1	32	51	17
Bradford	18	4	9	5	30	38	13
W. Suburbs	18	2	13	3	26	75	7
Moreland	18	2	14	2	20	56	6
Sunshine	18	1	13	4	13	94	6

1st Division Reserves League completed. Premiers: Brighton. Runners-up: Park Rangers.

Second Division Reserves—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Sand'ham	18	16	2	0	72	13	32
Hakoah	16	14	2	0	67	12	28
S. Melb.	17	13	3	1	62	22	27
Preston	18	12	6	0	58	27	22
Ringwood	18	9	8	1	41	37	19
Heidelberg	18	7	10	1	28	56	15
Olympic	17	5	10	2	17	46	12
Will'town	18	4	13	1	29	52	9
Yarraville	18	4	14	0	9	82	8
University	18	1	17	0	8	44	2

2nd Division Reserves League incomplete.

JUNIOR LEAGUE TABLES

Under 19 Division—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Yallourn	18	17	1	0	48	14	34
Box Hill	18	13	2	3	27	13	29
Preston	18	13	3	2	43	17	28
West. Subs.	18	12	3	3	38	23	27
Brighton	17	8	8	1	20	27	17
Park Rangers	18	7	19	1	18	48	15
Hakoah	18	6	12	0	12	33	12
Sth. Yarra	17	6	11	0	13	44	12

Under 17 Division—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Pts.
Sth. Melb.	18	18	0	0	101	7	36
Preston	18	15	2	1	65	27	31
Sunshine	17	11	3	3	38	16	25
Coburg	18	9	7	2	36	34	20
Metters	18	9	7	2	41	43	20
Bradford	18	9	8	1	23	40	19
Sand'ham	18	8	9	1	27	31	17
Brighton	18	7	9	2	26	42	16
Park Rangers	18	6	11	1	13	58	13
Ringwood	17	5	11	1	11	31	11
Northcote	18	3	15	0	9	61	6

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